

# TELEGRAM

Foreign Service of the  
United States of America  
POL 23-8 Amb Elbrick

INCOMING AMEMBASSY Rio de Janeiro

ACTION: 1967 SEP 59  
POL-3 FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE ~~LIMITED OFFICIAL USE~~  
INFO: TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 5844  
AMB INFO RUEHMC/AMEMBASSY MANAGUA ~~Classification~~  
DCM RUESUA/AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO 53  
BT  
MYNECON  
USIS ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ SAN JOSE 2495  
DAO-3  
WILGRP-2 JOINT STATE/USIS MESSAGE  
SY  
PSO  
CHRON

ACTION COPY  
RETURN TO CENTRAL FILES  
3827

Recd: Sept. 9, 1969  
1605

Action Copy

For: *Pol*  
Action taken

Declassified  
Authority: 43265 By:  
Amanda Weimer. Date:  
05-11-2015

SURJ: REACTION TO ELBRICK CASE

REF: STATE 151216

No action

Requested

File

Date: 9/10

Initials

1. ALL MEDIA GAVE PROMINENT NEWS COVERAGE ABDUCTION AMB ELBRICK, GOB DECISION RELEASE 15 POLITICAL PRISONERS AND AMBASSADOR'S SUBSEQUENT SAFE RETURN. ONLY EDITORIAL REACTION SO FAR WAS NATION'S SEPT 8 EDITORIAL ENTITLED "KIDNAPPING AMBASSADORS", WHICH HOWEVER MADE NO SPECIFIC MENTION ELBRICK CASE. ITS THESIS WAS TO CONTRAST POLICIES OF ORTHODOX LA COMMUNIST PARTIES WHICH SEEKING LEGALITY WITH THOSE MORE RADICAL SPLINTER GROUPS PURSUING DIRECT TERRORIST TACTICS. EDITORIAL SPECULATED WHETHER LEGALIZATION COMMUNIST PARTIES MIGHT PROVIDE SCREEN FOR TERRORIST ACTIVITIES BY RADICALS AND WARNED INCREASED WAVE OF EXTREMISM AND KIDNAPPINGS WOULD REPRESENT SINISTER TURN WITH UNFORESEEABLE CONSEQUENCES. STATED ONLY WAY "POLITICALLY DISARM" TERRORISTS WAS TO IMPLEMENT SOCIAL REFORMS WHICH STRENGTHEN DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS.

2. ELBRICK CASE HIGHLIGHTED HERE BY SIMILAR INCIDENT IN WHICH GOCP AMBASSADOR MANAGUA RECEIVED ANONYMOUS CALLS THREATENING HIM AND HIS FAMILY UNLESS RECENTLY CAPTURED FSLN LEADER CARLOS FONSECA AMADOR RELEASED (SAN JOSE 2449). THIS STORY GIVEN EQUALLY PROMINENT PLAY BY MEDIA AND PRESIDENT TREJOS ANNOUNCED THROUGH FONMIN LARA THAT GOCP WILL NOT BE INTIMIDATED AND WILL MAINTAIN AMBASSADOR IN MANAGUA. REPORTS EMANATING MANAGUA INDICATE GOCP AMBASSADOR AND RESIDENCE HEAVILY GUARDED.

3.

EO50X1

GOCP TAKING SECURITY PRECAUTIONS AROUND NICARAGUAN CHANCERY AND RESIDENCE ANT THREATS CONSIDERED SUFFICIENTLY SERIOUS TO WARRANT WITHDRAWAL CHILDREN OF NICARAGUAN AMBASSADOR FROM SCHOOL.

4. KEY SECTOR UNDERSTANDABLY CONCERNED WITH ELBRICK CASE IS DIPLOMATIC CORPS. THIS WAS MAIN TOPIC CONVERSATION AT BRAZILIAN INDEPENDENCE RECEPTION WHERE NUMBER OF AMBASSADORS EXPRESSED DISTRESS OVER INCIDENT. AT DIPLOMATIC CORPS MEETING FEW DAYS PRIOR ELBRICK KIDNAPPING IT WAS AGREED SMALL COMMITTEE OF AMBASSADORS WOULD APPROACH FONMIN LARA TO REQUEST GOCP PROVIDE POLICE PROTECTION AT RESIDENCES ALL CHIEFS OF MISSION. WHILE THIS MOVE

FORM 1-64 15-500

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
Classification

REPRODUCTION FROM THIS COPY IS  
PROHIBITED UNLESS "UNCLASSIFIED"

SPURRED MORE BY RECENT ROBBERIES THAN FEAR POSSIBLE POLITICALLY-MOTIVATED VIOLENCE, ELBRICK CASE WILL UNDOUBTEDLY INCREASE AMBASSADORS' CONCERN.

5. AT SAME RECEPTION BRAZILIAN DIPLOMAT COMMENTED ON IRONY THAT KIDNAPPING AMBASSADOR OF US, WHICH HAS BEEN URGING LIBERALIZATION OF REGIME, MAY NOW LEAD TO MORE REPRESSIVE GOB MEASURES.

PRINGLE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~